

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168098

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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FOLTEL FM KUALA LUMPUR 23 AUG 73 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
INFO BANGKOK, GENEVA, JAKARTA, MANILA, OECD PARIS, AND SINGAPORE
REPEATED TO YOU

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 3751

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: GATT TOKYO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MULTILATERAL
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 159293

1. SUMMARY. ASEAN SENIOR TRADE OFFICIALS MET KUALA LUMPUR
16-17 AUGUST TO PREPARE COMMON ASEAN POSITION ON MULTI-
LATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN) AT GAHG TOKYO MINISTERIAL
MEETING SEPT. 12-14. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING JOINT COMMUNIQUE MEETING BEGIN QUOTE EMPHASIZED
NEED THAT MTN SHOULD BRING ABOUT ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR INTER-
NATIONAL TRADE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SO AS TO ACHIEVE
SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS, DIVER-
SIFICATION OF ASEAN EXPORTS, AND ACCELERATION OF RATE OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 168098

GROWTH OF TRADE.END QUOTE.

3. MEETNG ALSO MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL WORK PREPARATORY TO ASEAN TRADE MINISTERS MEETING ON MTN IN JAKARTA 23-24 AUGUST AND MEETING ASEAN REPS AND SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES, EEC COMMISSIONER FOR EBZERNAL RELATIONS, IN BANGKOK 5-6 SEPT.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: TAN SRI PHILIP KUOK, CHAIRMAN OF ASEAN BRUSSELS COMMITTEE AND MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR TO BRUSSELS, REMARKED PRIVATELY THAT COORDINATION AMONG ASEAN COUNTGYES ON TRADE MATTERS SO LOOSE AND DIFFUSED HE DOUBTED AGREEMENT ON COMMON NEGOTIATING POSITIONS AND STRATEGY COULD BE REACHED PRIOR GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING. LYDMAN UNQTE RUSH

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